ADDRESS

OF THE

DEWAN OF MYSORE

TO THE

DASARA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

7th OCTOBER 1916.

PART II.

In the first part of the Address, I have given an account of the principal features of the administration of the State during the year 1915-16 under the main heads Finance, Revenue, etc. The less important details relating to the working of the several departments of Government are given, under the same main heads, in this part of the Address.

1.—FINANCE.

2. The Finance Committee was re-constituted during the year and the scope of its work has been enlarged with a view to enable it to investigate means of expanding revenue as well as scope for retrenching expenditure. In order that greater attention may be given to the more important questions connected with finance and the development of revenue, a full time Financial Secretary has been appointed as a temporary measure. Government have also recently engaged the services of Mr. K. L. Datta, late of the Indian Finance Department,

for a short period for an independent examination of the accounts and finances of the State. No such examination has been conducted since Mr. Kiernander was invited for the purpose in the year 1902.

3. Several schemes, having in view the promotion of economy and thrift, were introduced during the year. One of these was the establishment of village savings banks. Ninety-five of these banks have been sanctioned for important localities. The establishment of savings associations in schools, public offices and factories and other large institutions has been sanctioned in order to enable the persons employed in these institutions to lay by their savings, however small. Some thirty institutions have provided themselves with the requisite forms and registers and contemplate starting work under the scheme. The establishment of a collecting savings bank in Bangalore City has recently been sanctioned. To bring the State securities within the reach of the poor, Government have recently authorised the issue of State Loan Promissory Notes of the face value of Rs. 25, 50 and 100.

4. The outside audit and inspection work of the Account Department extended to most of the district and municipal boards in the State, the offices of the Electrical Department, the Railway Construction Divisions and some of the Divisions of the Public Works Department. The accounts of the State Railways worked by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company were audited by a senior Railway Accountant specially employed for the purpose.

The Mysore Bank.

5. The total transactions of the Bank stood at over Rs. 55 lakhs on 1st July 1916 or Rs. 14 lakhs more than on the corresponding date of the previous year and a net profit of Rs. 1,71,000 was realised during the year. The deposits of the public with the Bank rose from about Rs. 20,33,000 on the 1st July 1915 to over Rs. 33,05,000 on the 1st July 1916.

Savings Banks.

6. The amount deposited during the year was Rs. 29·78 lakhs against Rs. 31·48 lakhs in the previous year and the amount withdrawn was Rs. 34·31 lakhs against Rs. 41·93 lakhs in 1914-15. The amount at the credit of the depositors at the close of the year was Rs. 64·05 lakhs against 64·49 lakhs in the year previous, excluding interest in either case.

Mysore State Life Insurance.

7. During the year 2,079 proposals were received of which 1,624 were accepted and 211 rejected, leaving

244 pending. The financial position of the fund on 1st July 1916 stood as follows :—

				Rs.	a.	p.
Opening balance on 1st July 1915			...	32,63,662	15	10
Receipts—						
	Rs.	a.	p.			
Premium, etc. ...	3,74,665	3	0			
Approximate interest	1,17,838	10	1	... 4,92,503	13	1
			Total	... 37,55,566	12	11
Expenditure				... 1,42,092	1	6
Closing balance on 30th June 1916				... 36,13,474	11	5

As announced in this Assembly last year, the benefits of the State Life Insurance scheme have been thrown open to the public at large, and though the detailed rules could only be published towards the end of July last, a fairly large number of applications have been received, showing that the measure has supplied a real want.

2.—REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

Land Revenue.

8. The number of Shekdars under the old scheme is steadily on the decrease, their number at present being only 36 per cent of the total number of Shekdars in the State. Twenty-five trained men were entertained during the year.

9. Correspondence has been going on between the Government of India and the Durbar regarding the retrocession of 18 *kavals* or grazing lands situated in the Bangalore and Mysore Districts and covering an area of 18,373 acres which had been in the possession of the British Military Department. The Government of India have conceded the claims of the Durbar and restored the *kavals* in question. A portion of these *kavals*, *viz.*, those situated in the Bangalore District together with some pasture lands in the Kolar and Tumkur Districts have now been leased to the authorities of the British Military Grass Farm for a period of 10 years, which is liable to extension, at an annual rental of Rs. 11,423.

10. Out of the cultürable area recently surveyed in the Kankanhalli Taluk, a substantial portion has been set apart to meet the requirements of the local raiyats and a portion reserved for large landed estates and for the use of retired officers and men of the Mysore Military Department. The question of extending the cultivation under